

TOWN OF GOSHEN
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MINUTES – Regular Meeting
Town Hall Conference Room
April 19, 2016

PRESENT: Robert P. Valentine, Dexter S. Kinsella
OTHERS: Allan Walker, Cindy Barrett
EXCUSED: Steven M. Romano

Robert P. Valentine called the meeting to order at 5:05 p.m.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:

IN A MOTION made by Dexter S. Kinsella, seconded by Robert P. Valentine, it was VOTED to approve the minutes of the April 12, 2016 meeting as submitted. Motion carried.

MATTERS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES: NONE

APPROVAL OF PAYROLL AND WARRANT: April 21, 2016

IN A MOTION made by Dexter S. Kinsella, seconded by Robert P. Valentine, it was VOTED to approve the warrant and payroll of April 21, 2016 in the amount of \$38,191.89. It was noted included in the warrant was the payroll in the amount of \$12,498.55 and the warrant in the amount of \$25,693.34. Voted unanimous. Items in this warrant showed the expense for employee health insurance premiums.

PUBLIC COMMENT: NONE

FIRST SELECTMAN'S REPORT:

The newly purchased trailer for the Public Works Department has arrived. It was found to be of much better quality material than the older one.

Town hall phone numbers were ported over to *Nextivia* on Friday, April 15, 2016. Now that the phones have been switched, the hook-up to the *Nutmeg Network* will be done Wednesday, April 20, 2016.

The new software program PermitLink which will substantially update the building permit and the zoning permit process will start up on May 1st.

Bob Valentine reported that the easements necessary to move forward with the Shelbourne Drive drainage project are awaiting signatures from the abutting property owners.

CORRESPONDENCE: Bob Valentine received an e-mail from the Office of Emergency Medical Services (OEMS) requesting updated information on the town of Goshen's emergency medical service plans. Bob will respond accordingly.

Additionally, Bob Valentine reported that while attending the NWCOG meeting Thursday, April 14, 2016, a letter was authored, signed by all the 21 member municipalities, going to Governor Malloy indicating their displeasure with the proposed reductions in ECS grants (Education Cost Sharing). Another letter from the membership went to the UCONN Trustees indicating strong opposition to the closing of the UCONN Torrington Branch.

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OLD BUSINESS:

8a – Budgets:

Recreation, Dept. 22

Public Works, Dept. 02

Employee Benefits 71

Capital

The Capital Expenditure Request list was carefully reviewed and discussed: Assessor, Board of Assessment Appeals, Fire Company, Selectman, Tax Collector, Town Clerk, Library, Planning & Zoning, Public Works, Recreation and Assessor.

To address the proposed Governor's budget cuts to the town of Goshen, several remedies were discussed. The Board of Selectmen reviewed a detailed spread sheet compiled by Garret Harlow, Public Works Supervisor, and Bob Valentine showing expected road projects over the next five (5) years. The purpose of the spread sheet was calculate expenses vs. revenue including current and future TAR (Town Aid Road) grant dollars to determine if a \$100,000 reduction in major road projects budgeted in Capital and Non-Recurring would be feasible, while still keeping up with the 10-Year Road Plan. As noted was a \$500,000 federal grant that has been secured to work on Milton Road in the summer of 2017. After careful consideration of all the information, it was decided to reduce major road project appropriation request by \$100,000 for next year to offset the anticipated state grant cuts.

The lines in the above budgets were reviewed and adjustments discussed.

IN A MOTION made by Dexter S. Kinsella, seconded by Robert P. Valentine It was VOTED to receive and forward the above budgets to the Board of Finance for their consideration.

8b State Budget:

A brief discussion took place on the proposed State Budget as it pertains to Goshen and other municipalities in the northwest corner. A finalized State Budget will be forthcoming from the legislature soon.

Dexter Kinsella wanted to recognize the hard work and time consuming efforts that have been expended in producing a fair, thorough, and responsible budget for the the town of Goshen.

IN A MOTION made by Dexter S. Kinsella, seconded by Robert P. Valentine, it was VOTED to forward the Capital Expense Report onto the Board of Finance for their consideration.

Bob Valentine suggested that employee contribution to their health insurance plan be considered for the future.

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IN A MOTION made by Dexter S. Kinsella, seconded Robert P. Valentine, it was VOTED to add to the agenda, item 9a. under NEW BUSINESS: Tax Collector Report for March 21, 2016. Voted unanimous.

NEW BUSINESS:

The Tax Collector Report was reviewed. The Collection Rate – collected less refunds vs. total budgeted is 100.66%.

IN A MOTION made by Dexter S. Kinsella, seconded by Robert P. Valentine, it was VOTED to accept the Tax Collector's Report for March 31, 2016 as submitted. Voted unanimous.

ADJOURNMENT:

IN A MOTION made by Dexter S. Kinsella, seconded by Robert P. Valentine, it was VOTED to adjourn the meeting at 6:15 p.m. Voted unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

Lucille A. Paige, First Selectman's Aide